

IN RECOGNITION OF ANDREA LUNA CERVANTES' RECEIPT OF THE 2017 HAMILTON SCHOLARS AWARD

**HON. PAUL A. GOSAR**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 8, 2017*

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize Ms. Andrea Luna Cervantes of Prescott, Arizona. Andrea is an accomplished and dedicated student who has devoted tremendous amounts of time and energy to her studies and to improving her community. I am excited to announce that Andrea is one of 35 national recipients of the 2017 Hamilton Scholars Award for outstanding academic accomplishments and community service. Her work ethic, academic aptitude and ability to connect with people of all ages renders her receipt of this award no surprise.

Currently, Andrea is a rising senior at Yuma High School, where she is well on her way to becoming a productive service leader. In reaching this point, she has overcome many hardships through determination and a supportive community. I fully expect she will continue to grow into a productive and engaged citizen—exactly the kind of leader our society is in need of.

Those who know Andrea recognize that she has the natural ability to reach out and connect with people of all backgrounds. Included amongst her work in the community is her service as the Vice President of Junior State of America (JSA)—an American non-partisan youth organization that helps high school students acquire leadership skills and the requisite skills to be effective debaters and civic participants. She also serves as the President of her chapter of the National Honor Society—an academic membership-based organization that fosters a commitment to academic excellence. Andrea has competed at high levels of debate moderation and math competitions, and was a participant in the selective Yuma Youth Leadership Program.

Andrea is an ambitious, high-achieving young woman. She embodies the characteristics which, when cultivated, give rise to the best of our society's leaders. It is an honor of mine to recognize this Hamilton Scholar, and I expect only the best from Andrea's future endeavors.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. BRIAN BABIN**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 8, 2017*

Mr. BABIN. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday, June 7, I joined the Vice-President for an important event at Johnson Space Center in my congressional district. As a result, I missed the following recorded votes:

On roll call Number 288, ordering the previous question on House Resolution 374, had I been present I would have voted "yes."

On roll call Number 289, agreeing to House Resolution 374, had I been present I would have voted "yes."

On roll call Number 290, ordering the previous question on House Resolution 375, had I been present I would have voted "yes."

On roll call Number 291, agreeing to House Resolution 375, had I been present I would have voted "yes."

On roll call Number 292, the motion to table the appeal of the ruling of the chair, had I been present I would have voted "yes."

On roll call Number 293, passage of an amendment to H.R. 2213, had I been present I would have voted "no."

On roll call Number 294, passage of H.R. 2213, had I been present I would have voted "yes."

I am pleased that my colleagues in the House voted to pass the Anti-Border Corruption Reauthorization Act of 2017 that will enable the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) to fulfill its duty to protect the American people by waiving specific pre-employment requirements for certain qualified candidates to make the hiring process more expedient. The CBP is currently understaffed below its congressionally mandated level and this bill will help alleviate this staffing shortage.

DULLES HIGH SCIENCE TEAM GOES FAR IN NATIONAL COMPETITION

**HON. PETE OLSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 8, 2017*

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Dulles High School of Sugar Land, TX, for placing in the top 16 at the 2017 National Science Bowl Competition hosted by the U.S. Department of Energy.

The National Science Bowl is a prestigious academic competition that brings together thousands of middle and high school students from across the country. Students compete by solving technical problems and answering questions on a range of topics, such as biology, chemistry, earth and space science, physics and math. From January to March, regional elimination tournaments were held across the country. The top 111 teams from the regional competitions earned the opportunity to compete at the National Science Bowl. Dulles High School made it to the top 16, winning \$1000 for their school's science department. The team members included: Andrew Liu, Shree Mohan, Shreyas Balaji, Anish Patel, Abin Antony, Coach Judy Matney and Coach Chandra Mohan.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to Dulles High School for earning a top 16 spot at the National Science Bowl. We're proud to have them represent TX-22 and look forward to seeing their future accomplishments.

HONORING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF ANTHONY WILEY JR. AS HE RECEIVES THE YOUTH AWARD FROM THE BUFFALO BRANCH OF THE NAACP

**HON. BRIAN HIGGINS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 8, 2017*

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Mr. Speaker, I stand today to honor the accomplishments of

Mr. Anthony Wiley Jr., as he receives the Youth Award, which has been awarded to him by the Buffalo Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. He is deserving of this award due to his involvement with his local Boy Scout Troop, and his volunteer work for churches throughout his community.

Anthony has been involved with community service as a member of his Boy Scout troop throughout his life, and has been promoted to an Assistant Scoutmaster of Troop 237. He attained this honor by earning his merit badges through service-oriented and camping experiences, and was further awarded the rank of Eagle Scout for his hard work and dedication.

Some of Anthony's achievements as a Boy Scout include performing his role as Crew Leader on an eighty-two mile journey at Philmont Scout Ranch in New Mexico, acting as a Patrol Leader and later as a Senior Patrol member, and becoming a member of the Arrow of the Arrow. His Eagle Scout Project involved supervising the building of a new supply cabinet for his church. Notably, he spent a total of 105 hours to complete this project, and was acknowledged and rewarded by the Eagle Scout board of review on December 22, 2015.

Anthony has shown dedication to the Scout Oath, exhibiting an exemplary sense of duty and admirable mental and moral aptitude. He is extensively involved with his community, as shown by his attendance at the Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church, where he plays the drums, volunteers regularly in the food pantry, and helps those who run the church in their duties by tending to the sanctuary in the evenings.

He is a graduate of Tapestry Charter High School, where he was a member of the Thunder Hawks Varsity Basketball Team and of the school band.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to honor Mr. Anthony Wiley Jr. for his hard work and his dedication to his community. I wish him the best in his future endeavors and look forward to seeing how he will continue to serve others.

GOREVILLE HS GIRLS SOFTBALL

**HON. JOHN SHIMKUS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 8, 2017*

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute the achievements of the Goreville Black Cats softball team, which earlier this month brought home the Illinois Class 1A State Championship.

The Black Cats put together a 26-8 season this year, swept through the regional and the sectional, and knocked off two of the state's top teams at the state finals in order to claim the title. The team beat Hardin-Calhoun 2-0 in extra innings in the championship game.

These student-athletes and their coaches have represented themselves, their school, and their community in a first-rate fashion. I join with the other Members of this House in congratulating them and wishing them all the best in their future academic and athletic endeavors.

Congratulations to: team members Katie Schuetz, Camille Green, Shayna Elms, Morgan Dunning, Alexandria King, Payton

Sopczak, Adrianna Licka, Cheyenne Walker, Summar Albright (C), Kiara Miller, Breanna Stout, Camren Anderson (C), Macy Goins, Samantha Licka, Kelsey Ray; coaches and staff Steve Webb—Superintendent, Jeri Miller—Principal, Christina King—Assistant Principal, Todd Tripp—Athletic Director, Shanna Massey—Head Coach, Brooke Merrill—Assistant Coach, and Mandy Schuetz—Scorekeeper.

RECOGNIZING LOGAN LEE FOR HIS STATE TITLE AS THE 1A 220-POUND ILLINOIS STATE WRESTLING CHAMPION

**HON. CHERI BUSTOS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 2017

Mrs. BUSTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Logan Lee, a sophomore at Orion High School, for being named the Class 1A 220-pound Illinois State Champion in wrestling.

Logan Lee claimed a 12–9 victory at the Illinois State Wrestling Championship, and I would like to recognize Logan for his tremendous accomplishment. Logan's dedication and passion for his sport allowed him to overcome a difficult season, and a state bracket that included the top seed in his path. As a former athlete, I understand the hard work and dedication that goes into being awarded such a title. Logan has dedicated himself to his sport, and shows us all the value of perseverance and a strong work ethic. I am proud there is such young talent in our community, and to see him represent our community throughout the state.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to again formally congratulate Logan Lee on his title, and I join the rest of our community in wishing him every success in the future.

HONORING FRANK B. MESIAH AS HE RECEIVES THE PRESIDENT'S AWARD FROM THE BUFFALO CHAPTER OF THE NAACP

**HON. BRIAN HIGGINS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 2017

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the exceptional service of civil rights and social justice pioneer Frank B. Mesiah as the former president of the Buffalo Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) as he is presented with the President's Award at the NAACP Annual Medgar Evers Dinner.

Frank Mesiah is from Buffalo's West Side and a graduate of Grover Cleveland High School, in the Buffalo Public School system he would later fight to integrate. He earned his Bachelor's and Master's degrees from Buffalo State College and worked as both a Buffalo police officer, Buffalo teacher, and at the New York State Department of Labor to support his wife and three daughters.

After serving our nation and earning an honorable discharge from the United States Army in the 1950's, Frank worked tirelessly to fur-

ther the civil rights movement in the city of Buffalo. Under his leadership, the local NAACP chapter saw many successes in the public sector, notably in the city's police force and the public education system.

Frank diligently played the role of watchdog in the community by exposing racism and discrimination. Through the work of the NAACP, the Buffalo Public Schools were desegregated, thanks in no small part to Frank's efforts. He also fought for reforms in the Buffalo police force to ensure black and white officers were treated equally in the workplace. The NAACP also advanced black teachers and administrators in public schools.

In addition to striving for improvements for people of color in the city of Buffalo, Frank fought for the rights of women, senior citizens, and the gay and lesbian community. Buffalo is indebted to his remarkable determination and steadfast resolve. While much work remains to be done, Frank's work and the battles fought by the NAACP under his leadership have created a better place for us all.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for allowing me the opportunity to highlight the tremendous service of Frank Mesiah and the Buffalo Chapter of the NAACP. Our city is so grateful for his dedication to civil rights. I wish him the absolute best in all his future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING GREG J. FEERE UPON HIS RETIREMENT

**HON. MARK DeSAULNIER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 2017

Mr. DESAULNIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Greg J. Feere upon his retirement from the Contra Costa Building and Construction Trades Council. Mr. Feere has been an extraordinary community leader at the Building Trades Council and throughout Contra Costa County.

During his tenure as Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Mr. Feere also served as a Commissioner for the Contra Costa County Fish & Wildlife and as a Trustee of Contra Costa College. Prior to his work with the Building Trades Council, Greg was the youngest Business Manager for Asbestos Workers Local 16 to be elected in 100 years of the Local's history.

During his 30 years of service as CEO of the Council, Greg was elected uncontested for his seven terms, which reflects his accomplished tenure. Some highlights of his achievements include designing the first Community Outreach Program in Northern California to create training and job opportunities for women, minorities and economically disadvantaged workers, doubling the Council's membership in two and a half years, at a time when other unions were losing members and development and promotion of the Best Employee Safety Team (B.E.S.T.) program used at Shell refinery, which set a national safety record of 4 million hours worked without a lost time accident; for which Shell refinery received the Business Roundtable National Safety Award.

Mr. Feere's rich legacy is filled with positive impacts on working families and the less fortunate for those living in Contra Costa County and beyond. I wish Greg all of the best in his retirement.

Congratulations to Greg on a remarkable legacy of service in Contra Costa.

IN RECOGNITION OF JAMES JACOBS FOR HIS OUTSTANDING CAREER WITH MACOMB COMMUNITY COLLEGE

**HON. DEBBIE DINGELL**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 2017

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. James Jacobs for his work on behalf of Macomb Community College. Mr. Jacobs has been a tireless advocate for the college and higher education during his presidency and career with MCC.

After graduating from Princeton with a degree in politics, Dr. Jacobs began his career with MCC as a professor in economics, where he specialized in occupational education and suburban economic development. After several decades of teaching, Dr. Jacobs moved into MCC's administration in 1994. During his time, he also worked with the Community College Research Center at Columbia University, where he directed efforts on addressing issues facing community colleges throughout the country. In 2008, Dr. Jacobs was named President of MCC and served in this position until this year. During his tenure, Dr. Jacobs spearheaded a number of initiatives to grow and modernize the college, including expanding its training and vocational education programs to provide students in the community with in demand skillsets. These efforts have helped solidify MCC as a leader in workforce development and training.

Dr. Jacobs' decades of service with MCC has helped create a nationally renowned institution that effectively serves the needs of the Southeast Michigan community. Throughout his time as President, Dr. Jacobs has grown and expanded the college's workforce development and entrepreneurship offering, including the Innovation Fund Macomb Community College, which provides assistance to early-stage companies and entrepreneurs. His long-term planning has led to national recognition for MCC, including visits by President Obama and other state leaders. This legacy of excellence has helped drive economic development and provide a quality education to countless students, and Dr. Jacobs' leadership will be missed as he moves on from his current position.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Dr. James Jacobs for his distinguished career with Macomb Community College. Dr. Jacobs' work with MCC has been critical to the development of southeast Michigan and the education of its workforce.

**MONICA VALIENTE**

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 2017

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Monica Valiente for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.